

The Report on the Botanical Collections occupies something less than two pages; but it would seem from the remarks of Mr. Gepp, in his account of the Musci, that some of the collections which have been recorded elsewhere as having been made on this expedition failed to reach the Museum.

The Report on the Rock-specimens is written by Mr. G. T. Prior. It is to be hoped that his surmise that "future exploration may possibly lead to the discovery of fossiliferous Mesozoic rocks" will be proved to be correct by the researches of the 'Discovery' expedition.

Not the least valuable part of this book is contained in the "Extracts from the Private Diary of the late Nicolai Hanson." These extracts have been rescued from oblivion by the efforts of Dr. Sharpe. Nicolai Hanson, it will be remembered, was the zoologist of the expedition, and was the only member thereof to succumb to the rigours and hardships inseparable from a sojourn in a region so inhospitable. Intended only for the perusal of his wife, this diary naturally contained merely references to such zoological facts as would be likely to interest one who was not a professed zoologist. His detailed and scientific observations were entered in a series of separate note-books which contained most precious information concerning the life-history of the creatures which came under his ken and of the specimens daily added by him and his assistant Mr. Evans to the collection. These note-books, we are told, "were handed to the commander of the expedition by the dying naturalist . . . on the 14th of Oct., 1899." The only record we have of their contents are some observations from one of these books by the commander of the expedition; the rest have disappeared, and with them the fruits of the untiring labours of him whose zeal, as is shown by the diary to his wife, overtaxed his strength and ultimately brought about his death. The loss to zoological science of so gifted a naturalist is undoubtedly great, but it is rendered doubly great by the deplorable disappearance of these books, whereby he has been robbed of the reward of the labours which cost him his life and this Report has been materially impoverished.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Note on the Histeridæ (Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. 1902, vol. x. p. 273).

By G. LEWIS, F.L.S.

OWING to a misprint in Scudder's list of genera I used the name of *Coptostethus* in establishing a new genus. The name was used in 1854 by Wollaston, so I wish to substitute *Coptotrophis* for *Coptostethus*.